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F. M. M. W.

PATENT
Case OR-6976
DATE: 05/28/97

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

MENG-SHENG AO, ET AL.

SERIAL NO.: 08/672,128

FILED: JUNE 27, 1996

PRODUCTION OF BRIDGED METALLOCENE
COMPLEXES AND INTERMEDIATES THEREFOR)

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)
)
) GROUP ART UNIT: 1204
)
) EXAMINER: J. VOLLANO
)

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D. C. 20231

JUN 19 1997

Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action of March 28, 1997, amendment is hereby made as follows:

In the Claims:

1. (Twice Amended) A process which comprises:
- 1) mixing together at least one of each of the following: (a) a 4,5-benzoindanone, (b) an alkali or alkaline earth metal borohydride or alkali or alkaline earth metal aluminum hydride, (c) a hydroxyl-containing compound capable of interacting with (b) to serve as a hydrogen source, and (d) at least one ether;
 - 2) maintaining the resultant mixture under reaction conditions causing a 4,5-benzoindanol to be formed;
 - 3) terminating the reaction by quenching the reaction mixture with water or an aqueous mixture; and
 - 4) separating 4,5-benzoindanol from ether and water by extracting the quenched reaction mixture with a liquid aromatic hydrocarbon having a higher boiling point or a higher initial boiling point than the ether, and distilling [at least the ether from] the resultant extract to leave a liquid hydrocarbon solution of the 4,5-benzoindanol.